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FM AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2947

C O N F I D E N T I A L ADDIS ABABA 05620

FOR S/CT BREELAND

E.0.12356: DECL:OADR

TAGS: [PTER](#)

SUBJ: ETHIOPIA: 1990 ANNUAL TERRORISM REPORT

REF: STATE 355397

11. C-ENTIRE TEXT.

12. THE FOLLOWING IS A RESPONSE TO PARA 5 OF REFTTEL:

A) POST HAS NOT RECEIVED ANY INFORMATION REGARDING GOVERNMENT PROSECUTIONS OF TERRORISTS. IN MARCH, 1990, A BOMB BLAST AT THE HILTON HOTEL RESULTED IN THE EXPULSION OF TWO LIBYAN DIPLOMATS. THE EXPULSION OCCURRED WITHIN 48 HOURS OF THE BLAST, AND THE MISSION HAS NO INFORMATION REGARDING THE INVESTIGATION LEADING TO THE GPDRE ACTION.

B) POST HAS NO RECORD OF THE GPDRE REQUESTING EXTRADITION FOR SUSPECTED TERRORISTS.

C) IN TERMS OF PROSECUTION, POST CANNOT IMAGINE THE GPDRE EXPERIENCING ANY IMPEDIMENTS; IT WOULD LIKELY BE SWIFT AND BRUTAL. IN TERMS OF EXTRADITION, IT WOULD LIKELY BE DEPENDENT UPON WHETHER THE GPDRE HAS AN EXTRADITION TREATY WITH THE REQUESTING COUNTRY. THERE IS CURRENTLY NO EXTRADITION TREATY WITH THE U.S.

D) THE GPDRE HAS PROFESSED A DESIRE TO ASSIST IN OTHER INTERNATIONAL MATTERS-I.E., NARCOTICS TRAFFICKING - BUT HAS PROVIDED NO SPECIFICS ON TERRORIST MATTERS. THIS MAY BE A DELICATE SUBJECT FOR THEM, AS THE PLO IS RECOGNIZED AND REPRESENTED IN THIS COUNTRY.

E) POST IS NOT AWARE OF ANY MAJOR COUNTERTERRORIST EFFORTS UNDERTAKEN BY THE GPDRE. THEY HAVE MADE A MAJOR EFFORT TO COUNTERACT EPLF AND TPLF ACTIVITY IN ADDIS (AND THAT COUNTRYSIDE STILL UNDER GOVERNMENT CONTROL), WHOM THEY REGARD AS TERRORISTS. THE EPLF AND TPLF ARE FAR TOO LARGE, STRONG, AND OCCUPY TOO MUCH ETHIOPIAN TERRITORY TO BE CONSIDERED TERRORISTS.

F) POST HAS NOT DISCOVERED ANY ETHIOPIAN SUPPORT FOR TERRORIST GROUPS OR INTERNATIONAL TERRORISM, ASIDE FROM ETHIOPIAN RECOGNITION OF THE PLO. THE CURRENT GOVERNMENT ATTEMPTS AT RAPPROCHEMENT WITH THE WEST HAS MEANT INCREASED SECURITY SURVEILLANCE OF THE PLO, LIBYANS, AND IRAQIS.

G) POST HAS HEARD NOTHING FROM THE GPDRE THAT COULD BE CONSIDERED AS SUPPORTING TERRORISM, OF AN ACTION FROM THE "TERRORISM LIST" OF COUNTRIES. IN FACT, ETHIOPIA HAS COME OUT STRONGLY IN SUPPORT OF THE U.N. POSITION CONDEMNING IRAQ FOR ITS INVASION OF KUWAIT.

H) THE GPDRE HAS GIVEN THE APPEARANCE OF BEING SUPPORTIVE OF COUNTERTERRORISM EFFORTS, THOUGH EMBASSY EFFORTS TO SECURE A TERRORISM LIAISON FOR THE RSO HAVE NOT YET BEEN FRUITFUL (THEY HAVE BEEN ONGOING FOR SEVERAL MONTHS). THIS INCREASED COOPERATIVE SPIRIT IS A TREND SEEN OVER THE LAST 18 MONTHS, AS THE GPDRE TURNS AWAY FROM COMMUNISM AND BEGINS A TURN TOWARDS THE WEST.

12. IF S/CT REQUIRES ANY MORE DETAILED INFORMATION, PLEASE DON'T HESITATE TO ASK. REGARDS.

